



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Health Care Quality and Cost Council  
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JUDYANN BIGBY, M.D.  
Chair

JESSICA MOSCHELLA  
Administrative Director

**Health Care Quality and Cost Council  
Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** Wednesday, June 15, 2011

**Time:** 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** 1 Ashburton Place, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA

**Attendees:** Secretary Bigby, Joe Lawler, Lou Freedman on Behalf of Dolores Mitchell, Gerry McDonough, Ari Berman, Tom O'Brien, John Craven on Behalf of Gregg Sullivan, Debbie Chavis on behalf of Jim Roosevelt, Kevin Beagan, John Auerbach, Seena Carrington, Candace Reddy.

**Members Absent:** Sarah Iselin, Karen Boudreau, Tom Lee, Jean Russell.

- I. The minutes from the May 26, 2011 meeting were approved
- II. Committee Reports and Discussion
  1. Quality and Safety: Jessica Moschella provided an update on the June 1<sup>st</sup> Committee meeting. The Committee continued with its plan to Establish a Patient Safety Program in all Health Care Settings. Committee members planned next steps for implementation.
    - i. The Committee reviewed the chart of Health Care Settings and decided to merge it with the Site Oversight Chart (License, Certification, Accredited, and Deemed). The Committee invited DPH to the July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to provide more detailed information about its regulations. This list will be used to prioritize outreach to Professional Organizations and Associations
    - ii. The Committee discussed the guide and guide development. It would like to draft a 3-5 page guide with a list of resources. Committee members will email Jessica Moschella with resources to be included in the guide.
- III. Update from the Director (Jessica Moschella)
  1. The Nominating Committee was approved by the Council to fill the vacant treasurer seat.
  2. Council members have volunteered to fill the open committee chair positions.
  3. The FY 12 budget and spending plan was reviewed.
- IV. Items for Discussion

1. Jessica Moschella presented a proposal to extend MHQP's contract a one year for analytic consulting. The Council requested to hear MHQP's presentation before taking a vote.
2. Sally Okoniewski provided an update on the MyHealthCareOptions 2011 timeline including a review of the website history.
  - i. Clarification was provided on the definition of Medical Groups and new well visit measure to be added this year for Medical Groups.
  - ii. It was noted that hospital quality is updated once per year with hospital cost for one seamless provider verification process.
  - iii. It was noted that the grouping and naming conventions for Medical Groups is not necessarily consistent with names health plans use for contracting. MHQP clarified that they ask the Medical Group for the name to be used. It was noted that an area for exploration is to use standard naming conventions.
  - iv. It was suggested that the Council in conjunction with the Division of Health Care Finance and Policy (DHCFP) consider conducting an analysis and/or report when the data is updated to highlight any changes or findings.
3. MHQP presented recommendations for the Calendar year 2012 reporting on MyHealthCareOptions. This presentation included a review of the Three Year Plan.
  - i. It was clarified that there is no data available for Hospice, there are emerging resources. It was noted that DPH licenses home health agencies, not hospices, however most hospices are subservices of home health.
  - ii. The Council discussed the use of more composite measures as an area of interest.
  - iii. There was a motion to adopt the recommendations as presented by MHQP with the following:
    1. A cost analysis on displaying rather than linking home care measures. Jessica will come back with a report of the resources required.
    2. There are no measures for End of life care and hospice. The Council would like this to remain on the list of areas to continue to explore. DPH is in process of looking at recommended practices that should be adopted and implemented. If new information becomes available the Council will consider them
    3. All Council members voted in favor 12 votes, zero opposed, zero abstaining to adopt the recommendations as presented by MHQP.
  - iv. A motion was made to extend MHQP's contract for one year. All Council members voted in favor 12 votes, zero opposed, zero abstaining.
4. The DHCFP presented that Health Expenditures Report and Overview of Cost Trends Hearings
  - i. Secretary Bigby acknowledged the hard work done by the DHCFP and thanked them for coming back to the HCQCC.
  - ii. It was noted on slide 6: Percent change in per member year spending was greater for private payers than public, that there is no data for those without green bars
  - iii. It was clarified that structural changes were not looked at in the analysis finding that outpatient made-up the majority of the growth 2007-09
  - iv. The final agenda for the Public Hearings will published this week.

Adjourned 2:49pm